

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for a communication device to manage resources available to remote
2 user terminals in a communication system, the method comprising:

3 a communication device establishing a wireless communication session with a
4 remote user terminal, the wireless communication session having associated
5 therewith a first session time limit;
6 the communication device detecting a session renewal; and
7 the communication device altering the first session time limit in response to
8 detecting the session renewal

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the session renewal is caused by a priority status
2 associated with the remote user terminal.

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the communication receives an indication of the
2 priority status from the remote user terminal.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the session renewal is caused by the
2 communication device detecting active data exchange between the remote user terminal
3 and the base station prior to the lapse of the session time limit.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the first and second session time limits are equal
2 in duration.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the session renewal is received by the
2 communication device from the remote user terminal.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the session renewal is generated by the
2 communication device.

1 8. In a communication system, a method comprising:
2 a communication device providing a session to a remote user terminal, the session
3 having associated therewith a first session time limit;
4 upon lapse of the first session time limit, the communication device determining
5 whether a session renewal has been generated; and
6 the communication device, if having determined that a session renewal has been
7 generated, renewing the session for a second session time limit, and if having
8 determined that a session renewal has not been generated, terminating the
9 session.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the session renewal is caused by a priority status
2 associated with the remote user terminal.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the communication receives an indication of the
2 priority status from the remote user terminal.

1 11. The method of claim 8, wherein the session renewal is caused by the
2 communication device detecting active data exchange between the remote user terminal

3 and a data network coupled to the communication device upon lapse of the session time
4 limit.

1 12. The method of claim 8 wherein the first and second session time limits are equal
2 in duration.

1 13. The method of claim 8, wherein the session renewal is received by the
2 communication device from the remote user terminal.

1 14. The method of claim 8, wherein the session renewal is generated by the
2 communication device.

3 15. An apparatus for managing communication channels in a wireless communication
4 system, the apparatus comprising:

5 a session lifespan means for providing a time limit to a communication session
6 with an external device, the communication session characterized by an ability
7 of the external device to have access to wireless communication channels for
8 exchanging data; and

9 a session management means for altering the time limit in response to a
10 predetermined condition.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the session lifespan means includes a timing
2 mechanism to indicate lapse of the time limit.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the session management means is coupled to
2 the timing mechanism to delay or extend the time limit in response to the predetermined
3 condition.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition includes
2 detection of at least a first channel utilized by the external entity for data exchange.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition includes
2 detection of network congestion.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein network congestion is characterized at least in
2 part by a number of sessions in progress.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 19, wherein network congestion is characterized at least in
2 part by a number of channels that are active

1 22. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is caused by a
2 message received from the external entity.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the predetermined condition is caused by an
2 event generated by the session management means.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the time limit is determined by a quality-of-
2 service parameter of the external entity.

- 1 25. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising means for exchanging data with
2 said external entity and an external data network.

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